

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting the following:

**‘Sec. 1 Work group. Resolved:** That the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services shall convene an interdepartmental work group to develop and establish a uniform statewide protocol for screening children from 18 to 30 months of age for signs of autism, to examine models that meet criteria for evidence-based clinical trials to support individual young children with the diagnosis of autism served through the Child Development Services System and to examine the interdepartmental system for capacity and service availability. The interdepartmental work group shall report to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and health and human services matters by January 15, 2009. The joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and health and human services matters may submit legislation to the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.’

### SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the resolve. It requires the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services to convene an interdepartmental work group to develop and establish a uniform statewide protocol for screening young children for signs of autism. The work group is also directed to examine models that meet criteria for evidence-based clinical trials to support individual young children with the diagnosis of autism served through the Child Development Services System and to examine the interdepartmental system for capacity and service availability. The work group is directed to report to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and health and human services matters by January 15, 2009.